

K A M T S C H A T K A. 65

hazy, the clouds heavy, and always dark; while *Kamtschatka* ¹³²
appears like another world, where the land lies higher, and the
air is clear and serene.

The snow lies always deeper upon the *Lopatka* than upon the ¹³²
northern side of *Kamtschatka*; so that, if it be twelve feet in ¹⁸²
depth about the *Lopatka*, upon the *Awatscha* and the Great ²³³
River it is not so deep by one third, and at the same time lies ¹⁰⁵
lighter and more equal, by reason that the winds are not so
high there. About *Teghil* and *Karaga* the snow is seldom
deeper than a foot and a half: hence the reason appears why the
Kamtschadales do not keep rein-deer as well as the *Koreki*,
but depend upon the fish for their nourishment, which upon
the north-east and north-west coast from the Great River is
so scarce, that unless these barbarous creatures could digest every
thing they can get down, they would not be able to support life;
for, though throughout the country of *Kamtschatka* there would
be food enough for rein-deer, yet the depth of the snow renders
it impossible to maintain a number of them; and what rein-deers
we had occasion for in the expedition were never kept here in the
winter, the depth of the snow making it hard for them to dig
down to their food.

The force of the sun reflected from the snow in the spring is ¹³²
so great, that the inhabitants are as tawny as *Indians*; nay, they ²⁹³
have their eyes spoiled and blinded thereby: therefore the natives ⁷³²
generally wear covers pierced with small holes, or nets of black ¹⁴²
hair, to lessen the number of rays which would otherwise fall
upon their eyes. This is occasioned by the great winds, which
drive the snow so close together that it is almost as hard and solid
as ice, and will not allow the rays of the sun to penetrate, but
reflects them with greater force upon the very delicate and sensible
nerves of the retina than they are able to bear. Mr. *Steller* ⁰⁰⁰
says, that necessity forced him to find out a remedy for the pain
and inflammation of the eyes, which generally gave relief in six
hours'

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN KAMCHATKA

	Men		Women	
	Average	Stand. dev.	Average	Stand. dev.
Stature.....	1,597 mm.	5.4	1,495 mm.	4.8
Length of head.....	166 mm.	6.8	162 mm.	5.7
Width of head.....	149 mm.	5.7	144 mm.	4.8
Cephalic index.....	78.9	2.9	78.5	2.7
Width of face.....	144 mm.	5.7	137 mm.	4.3
Cephalic facial index.....	96.5	3.3	94.9	3.6

The Kamchadal, prior to embracing Christianity, threw away their dead to be devoured by dogs, and therefore no skeletal remains were found while excavating prehistoric sites. Only in one pit on the mouth of the River Kavrán were prehistoric human bones discovered, and among them were two skulls in good condition for measurement.¹ One of the skulls seemed to be that of a woman, the other of a man. The length of skulls was 177 mm. and 188 mm., the width 136 mm. and 143 mm. and consequently the indices 76.9 mm. and 77.9 mm. According to Broca 2 units may be added to the cephalic index of skulls to obtain the cephalic of the living. Adding 2 units to 76.9 and 77.9 mm. we have 78.9 mm. and 79.9 mm., figures nearly equal to averages of the cephalic index of the present-day Kamchadal.

Plate 1 shows photographs of Kamchadal men, women and young girls. Plate 2, figure 1, represents elders of some villages of the western shore of Kamchatka.

SANITARY CONDITIONS AMONG THE KAMCHADAL

The Russian conquerors have exercised a disintegrating influence on the family life of the Kamchadal. Among the Kamchadal, unchastity has been more or less common in the case of girls before marriage and of women after marriage. The Russians made liberal use of this custom and in this manner syphilis brought by them was widespread among the Kamchadal. This contagious illness resulted in different inherited diseases. In twenty-six villages of the western coast of Kamchatka, out of a population numbering 2,500, 250 people (i.e., 10 per cent) were, according to my census in 1911, cripples (blind, deaf-mute, humpbacked, lame persons and so forth); particularly were there many blind people, an average of 1 per cent, and half of the population was suffering from eye diseases. Plate 2, figure 2, shows a photograph of 11 blind men and women of the village Kharyusovo, which has 200 inhabitants; i. e., 5.5 per cent of the population are blind.

These observations refer to the year 1911 and it would be fair to relate observations of later years.

Dr. Shirokogoroff,² basing his statement on a recent (1919-1920) medico-statistical survey by Dr. Puxov who put his material at his disposal, says that some

¹ One skull was discovered on the Kuril Lake (see p. 62), but it was not in good condition for measurements.

² S. Shirokogoroff, *Northern Tungus Migrations in the Far-East*, The Journal, North China Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, vol. LXII, 1926, p. 174.

S: Jochelson

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Kamchadal

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A. Elders of the villages of the western shore of Kamchatka.
B. Group of blind men and women of the village Kharyuovo.

164 peninsula. It began at Anadirskoi; it is
278 not known how it was brought there;
757 though the Russians are also accused in this
 instance.

There is reason to suspect that the Kamtschadales are indebted to them in like manner for their knowledge of the venereal disease, which happily is not common. This pestilence appears to be exotic, and its cure is as difficult as it is rare. They have recourse to various roots and to corrosive sublimate, which is attended in this country with its usual ruinous effects, and the more so, as being indiscreetly administered.

732 The Kamtschadales have no deformed births. Such as are deformed among them, have become so in consequence of a considerable fall, though this is not a very common occurrence, as they are accustomed to fall from their balagans. They are but